



STATE OF VERMONT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
VERMONT TAX STRUCTURE COMMISSION

Goal

As directed by the General Assembly, we are using the principles of a high-quality revenue system to pursue three objectives:

- 1) Analyze Vermont's tax structure
- 2) Recommend improvements and modernization
- 3) Provide a long-term vision

Purpose

We will evaluate Vermont's three major types of taxes – income, consumption, and property – as well as other revenue sources and tax expenditures. We aim to make the tax system more understandable for the public, help policymakers compare the merits of various options, and offer recommendations to help Vermont's revenue system work better for Vermonters.

Principles	
A tax system that provides:¹	A high-quality revenue system:²
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comprises elements that are complementary, including the finances of both state and local governments.• Produces revenue in a reliable manner, prioritizing stability, certainty, and sufficiency.• Relies on a balanced variety of revenue sources.
Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Imposes similar tax burdens on people in similar circumstances.• Imposes a higher burden on people with greater ability to pay, and minimizes taxes on individuals with low income.• Promotes equity and fairness, both actual and perceived.
Appropriateness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is easy to understand and minimizes compliance costs.• Is as simple as possible to administer, raises revenue efficiently, is administered professionally, and is applied uniformly.• Is responsive to interstate and international competition.• Minimizes its involvement in spending decisions and makes any such involvement explicit.• Is transparent and accountable to taxpayers.

We invite you to learn more about our work and provide feedback.

Website: <https://ljfo.vermont.gov/committees-and-studies/tax-structure-commission>
Email: taxcommission@leg.state.vt.us TEL: (802) 828-2295

¹ Vermont General Assembly, [Act 11 Sec.H.17 of 2018](#)

² Adapted from National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), [Principles of a High-quality State Revenue System](#)